(19) Europäisches Patentamt
European Patent Office
Office européen des brevets

(11) Publication number: **0 260 043**
A3

(12) # EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION

(21) Application number: **87307642.6**

(22) Date of filing: **28.08.87**

(51) Int. Cl.[4]: **H04M 3/42 , H04L 11/20 , H04Q 3/68**

(30) Priority: **05.09.86 US 904885**

(43) Date of publication of application:
16.03.88 Bulletin 88/11

(84) Designated Contracting States:
BE DE FR GB IT NL SE

(88) Date of deferred publication of the search report:
14.02.90 Bulletin 90/07

(71) Applicant: **AMERICAN TELEPHONE AND TELEGRAPH COMPANY**
550 Madison Avenue
New York, NY 10022(US)

(72) Inventor: **Hunter, Paul Douglas**
107 Hopi Court
Naperville Illinois 60540(US)
Inventor: **Wildrevitz, Benjamin Cecil**
7136 Blackburn Street
Downers Grove Illinois 60515(US)
Inventor: **Parker, William Waiter**
1330 Deep Run Road
Naperville Illinois 60540(US)

(74) Representative: **Johnston, Kenneth Graham et al**
Western Electric Company Limited 5 Mornington Road
Woodford Green Essex, IG8 OTU(GB)

(54) **Virtual pbx call processing method.**

(57) A virtual PBX capability is provided to a group of user packet stations (1005, 1006, 1055, 1056) served by a packet switching system (10). The system establishes a virtual circuit between each distinct pair of stations in the group. The stations exchange signaling packets via the virtual circuits and respond to such packets by coordinating the initiation and disconnection of voice, data, or image calls. All call processing, including the provision of features such as call forwarding and automatic callback, is accomplished by stations without the aid of the switching system. A fraud prevention mechanism is included in the switching system to prevent unauthorized stations from communicating as part of the virtual PBX group.

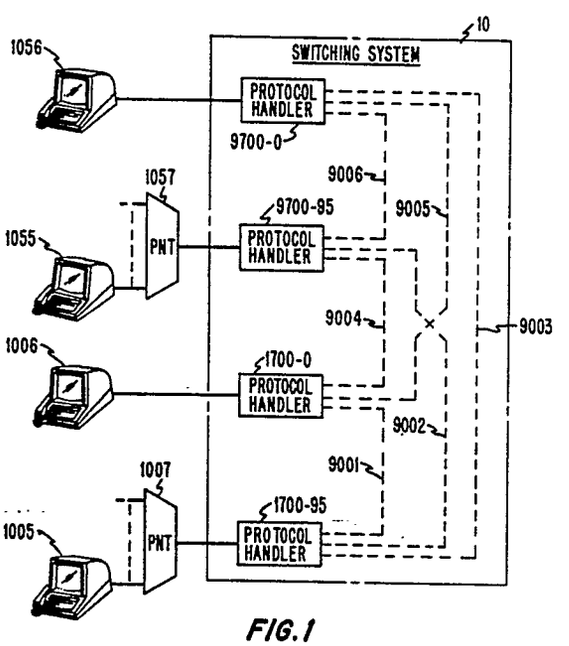

FIG. 1

EP 0 260 043 A3

European Patent Office

EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number

EP 87 30 7642

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int. Cl.4)
A	JAPAN TELECOMMUNICATIONS REVIEW, vol. 23, no. 2, April 1981, pages 167-174, Surrey, GB; N. SONE et al.: "Extended DDX packet switched network" * Page 171, left-hand colum, line 30 - right-hand column, line 5; paragraph 4.1; figure 4 * ---	1,2,4	H 04 M 3/42 H 04 L 11/20 H 04 Q 3/68
A	COMPUTER DESIGN, vol. 15, no. 6, June 1976, pages 83-88; J. DE SMET et al.: ""Pacuit" switching combines two techniques in one network" * Page 84, left-hand column, line 30 - right-hand column, line 8; page 87, left-hand column, line 6 - page 88, right-hand column, line 11 * ---	1	
A	WO-A-8 505 237 (AT & T) * Page 14, lines 25-29; page 48, line 26 - page 49, line 7; page 56, line 25 - page 61, line 21 * ---	4-8	TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int. Cl.4)
A	ISS'84 - PROCEEDINGS OF THE INTERNATIONAL SWITCHING SYMPOSIUM, Florence, 7th-11th May 1984, session 23A, part 1, pages 1-6, North-Holland Publishing Co., Amsterdam, NL; D.L. HUEBNER: "Intelligent telephones and generic switching: a distributed processing PABX architecture" * Paragraph 3 * -----	3-8	H 04 L

The present search report has been drawn up for all claims

Place of search	Date of completion of the search	Examiner
THE HAGUE	08-11-1989	STAESSEN B.F.

CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS

X : particularly relevant if taken alone
Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category
A : technological background
O : non-written disclosure
P : intermediate document

T : theory or principle underlying the invention
E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date
D : document cited in the application
L : document cited for other reasons

& : member of the same patent family, corresponding document

EPO FORM 1503 03.82 (P0401)